Message Text

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FM USMISSION NATO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3944
SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USDEL MBFR VIENNA
USNMR SHAPE BE

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USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

E.O.11652: GDS TAGS: PARM. NATO

SUBJECT: MBFR: DATA DISAGGREGATION: SPC MEETING MAY 31

REF: (A) USNATO 4019 (DTG 251057Z MAY 77), (B) USNATO 2738 (DTG 051522Z MAY 77)

SUMMARY: AT THE MAY 31 SPC MEETING, CANADA AND THE UK INDICATED THAT THEY WISH TO HAVE THE FRG PROPOSAL ON UNIT DISAGGREGATION BEFORE DISCUSSING FURTHER THE FRG IDEA OF AN UNCLASSIFIED DATA PUBLICATION. CANADIAN, DUTCH AND BELGIAN REPS EXPRESSED THE HOPE FOR EARLY SUBMISSION OF THE FRG PROPOSAL ON UNIT DISAGGREGATION. FRENCH REP TOLD US PRIVATELY THAT ALTHOUGH HE HAD NO INSTRUCTIONS ON INCLUSION OF FRENCH DATA IN THE UNCLASSIFIED PUBLICATION, HE NOW THOUGHT HIS AUTHORITIES WOULD NOT AGREE TO INCLUSION OF FRENCH DATA. TURKISH REP ALSO DID NOT HAVE INSTRUCTIONS ON INCLUSION OF TURKISH DATA. END SECRET

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SUMMARY.

1. IN CORRIDOR CONVERSATION PRIOR TO THE MAY 31 SPC MEETING, FRENCH REP (GEULLUY) RAISED THE QUESTION OF THE UNCLASSIFIED DATA PUBLICATION. HE TOLD US THAT HE HAD NO INSTRUCTIONS AS YET ON INCLUSION OF DATA ON FRENCH FORCES, UNDER THE FORMAT PROPOSED BY FRG REP AT THE PREVIOUS

MEETING (PARA 1, REF A). HOWEVER, GUELLUY NOW SUSPECTED THAT HIS AUTHORITIES WOULD NOT AGREE TO INCLUSION OF FRENCH DATA, BECAUSE THE PUBLICATION WOULD BE A NATO PUBLICATION, AND BECAUSE THE OTHER ALLIES WOULD DRAFT IT WITH THE INTENTION OF USING IT IN THE MBFR NEGOTIATION. TURKISH REP (GUR) ALSO DID NOT HAVE INSTRUCTIONS ON WHETHER TURKISH DATA COULD BE INCLUDED.

- 2. AT THE MEETING, CANADIAN REP (BARTLEMAN) SAID THAT CANADA WANTS TO AWAIT THE SUBSTANTIVE FRG PAPER ON UNIT DISAGGREGATION BEFORE CONSIDERING THE FRG IDEA FOR A DATA PUBLICATION. (COMMENT: CANADIAN REP, WHO HAS JUST RETURNED FROM OTTAWA, TOLD US PRIVATELY THAT OTTAWA CONTINUES TO HAVE STRONG MISGIVINGS ABOUT THE BROCHURE IDEA, BUT WILL GO ALONG IF THERE IS A CONSENSUS. END COMMENT)
- 3. ITALIAN REP (CIARRAPICO) ASKED THE FRG REP IF THE FRG IDEA OF PROVIDING DATA ON THE US, CANADIAN AND UK FORCES IN AFCENT WAS NOT A WAY OF MENTIONING NATIONAL SUB-TOTALS IN THE NGA. HE ASKED WHY THE FRG DID NOT WANT TO MENTION STATIONED FORCES IN OTHER AREAS. FRG REP REPLIED THAT FRG DID NOT WANT TO MENTION THE NGA AS SUCH, AND THOUGHT THAT ITS FORMAT WAS SUFFICIENT FOR AVOIDING AN MBFR CONTEXT.
- 4. US REP (MOORE) AGAIN NOTED US SUPPORT FOR THE IDEA OF AN UNCLASSIFIED PUBLICATION.
- 5. UK REP (JANVRIN) SAID THAT HIS INSTRUCTIONS WERE THAT SECRET

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THE UK WOULD NOT COMMENT FURTHER ON THE PUBLICATION IDEA IN ISOLATION FROM THE FRG PROPOSAL ON UNIT DISAGGREGATION WHICH THE FRG REP HAD PROMISED AT THE PREVIOUS MEETING.

6. ACTING CHAIRMAN (KILLHAM) ASKED WHEN THE FRG PROPOSAL WOULD BE AVAILABLE. FRG REP REPLIED THAT HE HOPED IT WOULD BE SOON, BUT HE COULD NOT PROMISE A DATE. CANADIAN REP NOTED THAT THE AD HOC GROUP WAS FINDING THE PRESENT SITUATION INCREASINGLY DIFFICULT. HE READ FROM A CABLE FROM THE CANADIAN DELEGATION IN VIENNA THAT THE AHG HAD BEEN REDUCED TO REFORMULATION OF EARLIER QUESTIONS, AND THAT THE DATA DISCUSSION MAY NOW DEVELOP INTO COUNTER-PRODUCTIVE WAYS IN THE ABSENCE OF NEW GUIDANCE. CANADIAN REP SAID THAT IT WAS URGENT TO RESOLVE THE PRESENT SITUATION, AND HE HOPED FOR EARLY SUBMISSION OF THE FRG PAPER, BUT AT THE SAME TIME HE APPRECIATED THE FRG'S DIFFICULTIES. DUTCH REP (BUWALDA) SAID THAT THE CANADIAN STATEMENT COINCIDES WITH THE VIEW OF THE DUTCH DELEGATION IN VIENNA, WHICH HAD CABLED VIRTUALLY THE SAME LANGUAGE.

HE UNDERSTOOD THE FRG REP'S DIFFICULTY. HOWEVER, DUTCH REP WISHED TO INSIST ON SPEED IN GETTING GUIDANCE TO THE AHG. BELGIAN REP (CROLLEN) SAID THAT WITHOUT TAKING THE SAME LINE AS CANADA AND THE NETHERLANDS, HIS AUTHORITIES WISH TO CONSIDER ALL THE POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS, SO HE HOPED THE FRG WOULD SOON TABLE ITS NEW OPTION.

7. ACTING CHAIRMAN ASKED FOR COMMENTS ON THE DUTCH PROPOSAL FOR FUNCTIONAL DISAGGREGATION (REF B). ACTING MC REP (COL. ABOOD) NOTED INFORMAL IMS AIDE MEMOIRE ON THE DUTCH PROPOSAL WHICH GROUP CAPTAIN SMITH HAD JUST CIR-

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CULATED. (COMMENT: THIS BRIEF AIDE MEMOIRE CONCLUDES THAT ALTHOUGH DUTCH PROPOSAL FOR FUNCTIONAL DISAGGREGATION IS TECHNICALLY FEASIBLE FOR ALLIED FORCES, IT WOULD RAISE SOME DEFINITIONAL PROBLEMS WITH RESPECT TO ALLIED FORCES, AND WOULD REQUIRE CONSIDERABLE DEFINITIONAL DISCUSSION WITH THE EAST ON EASTERN FORCES. IN MILITARY-TECHNICAL TERMS IT WOULD BE MORE DIRECT AND PRODUCTIVE, AND LESS CUMBERSOME, TO START WITH NATIONAL SUB-TOTALS AND THEN FOCUS ON MAJOR UNITS TO THE EXTENT NECESSARY. END COMMENT.)

8. FRG REP SAID HIS AUTHORITIES APPRECIATED THE DUTCH

EFFORT, BUT BELIEVED THAT IT WOULD REQUIRE CONSIDERABLE DISCUSSION OF DEFINITIONS WITH THE EAST, WHICH WOULD NOT BE PRODUCTIVE. THERE MIGHT ALSO BE A NEED TO GO BELOW DIVISIONAL LEVELS UNDER THE DUTCH PROPOSAL. IN ADDITION, THE DUTCH FORMAT LISTED ALL FORCES BY NATIONALITY. (COMMENT: WE LATER ASKED CITRON PRIVATELY WHAT SECRET

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THE LATTER SENTENCE MEANT WITH RESPECT TO THE COMING FRG PROPOSAL ON UNIT DISAGGREGATION. HE CLARIFIED THAT THE SPECIFIC FRG CONCERN WAS THAT THE DUTCH PROPOSAL LISTED ALL FORCES FOR EACH NATION IN THE SAME COLUMN, WHICH, PRESENTATIONALLY, WOULD LOOK TOO MUCH LIKE THE TABLING OF NATIONAL SUB-TOTALS. HE THEN PROVIDED THE INFORMATION ON INCLUSION OF NATIONAL DESIGNATORS IN THE DRAFT FRG PROPOSAL ON UNIT DISAGGREGATION REPORTED SEPTEL. END COMMENT.)

9. UK REP SAID THAT PROVISIONAL UK VIEW WAS THAT THE DEFINITIONAL PROBLEMS ASSOCIATED WITH THE DUTCH FUNCTIONAL APPROACH WERE TOO GREAT, AND IT WOULD PROBABLY BE BETTER TO PURSUE TRANSFORMATION OF THE DUTCH PROPOSAL INTO A UNIT BREAKDOWN APPROACH. US REP ALSO EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR THE DUTCH PROPOSAL, AND SAID THE PROVISIONAL US VIEW WAS SIMILAR TO THAT OF THE UK. (COMMENT: THE DUTCH ARE NOT PUSHING THEIR SPECIFIC PROPOSAL, WHICH THEY PUT FORWARD ONLY AS AN IDEA TO BE EXPANDED UPON. END COMMENT.)

 $10.\ \mbox{NEXT}$ SPC MEETING ON MBFR WILL TAKE PLACE ON MONDAY, JUNE 6, UNLESS SOME COUNTRY CALLS FOR A MEETING BEFORE THEN. BENNETT

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